

# LABOR CLARION

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STATE

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## Are Wage Increases Still Inflationary?

By VARDEN FULLER, Economist, Joint Council of Teamsters

Labor was as much interested as any other segment of the economy in preventing inflation during the war. As its contribution in the anti-inflation program, Labor submitted to the Little Steel Formula, allowing wage increases of 15 per cent over January 1, 1941. While Labor was limited to this 15 per cent, corporate profits, after taxes, for all private industries in the United States increased during the war years by more than 100 per cent over the pre-war level. Corporate savings which, prior to 1941, had generally been on the minus side, rose to more than \$5,000,000,000 per year during the war years. Labor, therefore, assumed far more than its proportionate share of the burden of avoiding inflation.

When wage stabilization controls were relaxed following V-J Day, a wage increase was received by most all branches of Organized Labor. These post-V-J Day increases followed an arbitrary national pattern set at 18½ cents per hour, although the increases actually received ranged all the way from 15 cents to 25 cents per hour. At about the same time that these increases were received, the work week was reduced for many classifications of labor from 48 to 40 hours per week. The wage increases received were not sufficient to offset the decrease in hours. A reduction in take-home pay therefore resulted.

Until July of this year prices and the cost of living did not increase greatly over the level of V-J Day. If prices had been kept in line, Labor could possibly have delayed its request for a second round of general increases until reconversion were completed and peacetime products were flowing onto the market in normal quantities. Unfortunately, however, price increases have far outdistanced wage increases, with the result that the wage dollar buys less now than before or during the war.

Price increases since V-J Day have been two or three times the amount necessary to absorb the wage increases that were granted. The result is that corporate profits thus far in 1946 have been at an all-time high—approximately three times those in pre-war years. Nevertheless, business and industrial leaders are still taking the position that wage increases would only be followed by upward adjustments in prices. Financial writers continually point to the total payroll of the Nation, which in dollar terms is high, because the number of people employed is at an all-time high. Even if the total pay-

roll of Labor is high, does this mean that Labor is getting more than its just proportion of the total national income? Are the editors of the financial pages and the spokesmen of industrial interests right? Are wage increases now a threat to inflation?

The fact is that wages in relation to the total national income are now very near an all-time low. In fact, the proportion of the national income paid out as wages is now about the same as in 1929. As is generally recognized, the crash of 1929 was caused in large part by the failure of industry to pay sufficient wages to support the markets. In other words, although the total national income and the Labor payroll of the Nation have increased, the percentage of the national income received by property owners, farmers and proprietors has increased, while the percentage received by wage earners has decreased.

As result of the shortsighted and greedy price policy that has been followed since June of this year, industry is pricing itself out of the market. Wage rates being paid at present do not constitute sufficient purchasing power to clear the markets at present prices. In this flood of ever-increasing prices, working men's families have been forced to sell their war bonds and to go it alone. The redemption of Series E war bonds are at the sales by 100,000,000 to 180,000,000 per month. Consumer debt is also increasing at an alarming rate. Now, markets depend on wage earnings supplemented by the sale of war bonds and by consumer credit. Nevertheless, there are signs, to quote the *U. S. News* of September 20, 1946, "that prices are beginning to choke consumers out of the market, that people's ability to buy is declining."

Wages in relation to prices are, therefore, now far too low. In a mass-production economy, the wages paid to Labor must create sufficient purchasing power to take the products off the market. Wage increases are not now a threat to inflation; quite the opposite. There is now a serious threat of deflation and price recession because wages are too low.

Under the circumstances now prevailing, financial editors and business spokesmen will not be able much longer to keep up the pretense that wage increases will only contribute to inflation. Unless substantial wage increases are obtained in the very near future, we will witness a price recession resulting from the unbalanced condition that now exists between prices and wages.

## Higher and Higher Goes Living Costs

SAN FRANCISCO (CFLN)—The Consumers' Price Index of the United States Department of Labor continues to reflect the rise in the cost of living. The latest figures to be released are those for September 1946, and they indicate that the index for the United States as a whole on September 15 was 145.9. The San Francisco index was 150.9 while the Los Angeles index was 145.5.

These figures indicate that the index for the United States as a whole rose 1.5 per cent between August and September 1946 and 13.1 per cent since September 1945. The increase since January 1941 is 44.9 per cent.

For San Francisco, the index rose from 147.2 to 150.9, between August and September, an increase of 2.5 per cent for that 30-day period. The September 1946 index is 13.8 per cent higher than for September 1945, and 47.8 per cent higher than on January 15, 1941.

The Los Angeles index rose approximately 1 per cent during the last month and its September 1946 level of 145.5 is 10.2 per cent higher than for September 1945. The latest index shows that between January 1941 and September 1946, the cost of living in Los Angeles rose 41.5 per cent.

quoted above are based on the "All the Bureau, however, publishes separate various component parts, including food, rent, house furnishings and miscellaneous items. Of these, the greatest rise is seen in the food index. For September 1946, the food index for the United States was 174.1; for Los Angeles, 176.5; and for San Francisco, 186.5. The United States food index for September 1.6 per cent higher than for August, 5.1 per cent higher than for July, and 19.6 per cent higher than for June. Between September 1945 and September 1946 it rose 25 per cent, and an increase of 78 per cent was recorded between January 1941 and September 1946.

In Los Angeles the food index rose about 1 per cent between August and September, and 14 per cent between June and September. In the 12-month period from September 1945 to September 1946 the increase was 19.9 per cent. It rose 73.4 per cent between January 1941 and September 1946.

For San Francisco, the food index for September 3.3 per cent higher than for August and 19.9 per cent higher than for June. Since September 1945, the San Francisco food index rose 25.8 per cent, and since January 1941 it rose 87.2 per cent.

These figures clearly illustrate the tight squeeze in which the wage earner has found himself today and explain why there is so much labor unrest in the country. As a result of the rise in the cost of living, a dollar in San Francisco today will buy only what \$.67 bought in January 1941, while the dollar in Los Angeles today will buy only what \$.70 bought in January 1941.

## Woolworth's in Atlanta Signs with Retail Clerks

ATLANTA (AFLN)—A "first" was registered here when an agreement between the Retail Clerks' Union and Woolworth department store was signed recently. This is the first agreement to be signed between the Retail Clerks' International Association and any retail establishment in the city.

The agreement provides that no person shall be employed under the age of 16; one week's paid vacation for all employees who have been with the company for six months; two weeks' vacation with pay for one-year employees; and three weeks' vacation after five years with the company.

The contract calls for six holidays, and when an employee is required to work on these holidays, double time pay is allowed. Also, 15 days' sick leave annually is provided, with the work week set at 42 hours, seniority rights, 15-minute rest periods each morning and afternoon and an increase in pay of \$3 per week across the board.

## Carmen Vote Strike

Operating employees of the California Street Cable Railway voted to take strike action in order to gain parity pay as applied to the Municipal Railway System. Many carmen received increase to \$1.24 per hour for their work. The gripmen and conductors of the cable railroad are members of Carmen's Union 1380.

## 29,400 Handicapped Find Positions During October

WASHINGTON (AFLN)—The United States Employment Service has announced that a total of 29,400 handicapped workers were placed in jobs in October, an increase of 38 per cent over September. This figure included 19,200 disabled veterans. The proclamation by President Truman during National Employ-the-Physically-Handicapped-Week, beginning October 6, spurred the country's employers to full co-operation.

## WU Curtailments Assailed

WASHINGTON (ILNS)—Telegraph service is being impaired by the Western Union Telegraph Co.'s "ill advised and false economy program" of closing many offices and reducing working hours of others, the Commercial Telegraphers' Union, AFL affiliate, charged. The union accused the Federal Communications Commission of hastening the "disintegration of proper service" by giving routine approval to Western Union's application to curtail service in branch and district offices. In a letter to Charles R. Denney, the commission's acting chairman, President J. A. Payne of the union demanded that full investigation be made of each application. He said this was necessary to keep up efficient telegraph service and prevent unwarranted displacement of skilled workers.

## Pickets at Peninsula Golf Club

Landscape, Golf Club and Nursery Workers Union placed a picket line at the Burlingame Country Club in San Mateo county on Monday, November 25. The dispute is centered around organizing greenskeepers. Other unions involved through the picket line observed the action of the contending union, which had received strike sanction of the San Mateo County Labor Council.

## Support Gained for Oakland Clerks' Union

Believing that the attitude of the Oakland Kahn's Department store and the Retail Merchants' Association of Oakland is the opening gun in an open shop drive in the Bay area, leaders of AFL unions in Alameda county threw their weight behind the fight that Oakland Clerks' Union, No. 1265, now find themselves in.

Chief among the organizations pledging support to the clerks was the Joint Council of Teamsters of Alameda county. The temos rendered aid in the form of a very substantial financial contribution to the strike fund of the clerks, together with their moral support.

With more than 500 officials of unions in attendance at a meeting held November 19, the entire picture of the events leading up to the strike by the clerks against Kahn's and Hastings was reviewed. A further meeting at which every member of East Bay Organized Labor will be afforded an opportunity of learning first-hand the wherefores and whyfores of the strike is scheduled for Tuesday, December 3, at 8 p. m. in the Oakland Civic Auditorium.

The radio program sponsored by Retail Clerks' Union 1265 on Station KROW continues to tell the strikers' side of the picture. The program is heard Tuesday evenings at 9:45 o'clock, 960 on your radio dial.

## Hanna Boys Center Drive

Heartening response to the worthwhile endeavor to raise \$975,000 for the establishment of the Hanna Boys Center near Danville, California, is spurring volunteer workers to complete the fund raising campaign. The drive has the full support of Labor and civic organizations as well as the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Contributions may be made through any local parish or at the campaign headquarters in San Francisco at Market and New Montgomery streets.



## Mayor of Hamburg Befriended by AFL

HAMBURG, Germany (AFLN)—One marked effect of the American Federation of Labor to preserve free trade unionism in Germany came to fruition here with the election of Max Brauer, 59, to the mayoralty of this large German city.

Mr. Brauer had been Mayor of Altona, a suburb of Hamburg, when the Nazis rose to power. He was removed from office, and through the aid of the American Federation of Labor, was able to flee to France and escape extradition there when the Nazis sought his return to try him on some trumped-up charges.

Mr. Brauer, through further AFL aid, proceeded to China, where he became a political adviser to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek. Later he proceeded to the United States where, as a veteran leader in the German Labor Movement, he visited many cities and talked with other Germans-in-exile.

At Mr. Brauer's request, the AFL arranged last June for his return to Germany to help rebuild the German Labor Movement. He took up quarters in Hamburg, where he was nominated for and elected Mayor by the dominant Social Democratic Party, which won 85 per cent of the votes in the recent city elections.

Mr. Brauer's wife lives in New York City, where his son, Werner, is a captain in the U. S. Army Medical Corps. A daughter, Mrs. Honore Sibling, lives in Concord, N. H.

## N. Y. Prudential Workers AFL

NEW YORK CITY (AFLN)—Marking an outstanding triumph, the American Federation of Labor, supervisory employees of the Prudential Insurance Co., working here, voted 210 for AFL representation to 66 for non-union. The election, supervised by the State Labor Relations Board, culminated nine months' effort by AFL organizers to secure bargaining rights for this group.

## Purchasing Facts

### FM RADIOS

Bad news for prospective purchasers of FM radios is that only two sets out of the first eight tested were rated "Acceptable" in Consumers Union's first report on FM radios. The letters FM refer to a new kind of radio broadcasting and receiving apparatus, as opposed to AM, the present standard broadcasting. Among the advantages of FM or frequency modulation are: more faithful reproduction of tone, a wider range from loud to soft in music, and a greater ability to suppress interference from static and from other stations. But these advantages can only be secured from a well designed FM receiving set. CU hoped to find a moderately-priced receiver good both on AM or standard broadcast band, and FM. It is still searching.

The only two sets so far found "Acceptable" by CU are: Zenith 12H090, a console with record-changer, AM and FM sections, at \$329.40, and Stromberg-Carlson 1121 LW, a console with AM and FM sections at \$209.75.

(Authority: Consumers' Union)

## Teachers' Union Blames Examiners For Low Morale of N. Y. Educators

NEW YORK CITY (AFLN)—Full responsibility for low morale among present and prospective teachers was placed at the door of the Board of Examiners of the Board of Education here by the New York Teachers' Guild (AFL), in a 40-page report made public on the "efficiency, validity and humaneness" of the teacher examination practices.

The present examination system is "outmoded, failing as it does to take cognizance of significant changes in the whole approach to teaching," the report, which was compiled after a year's study by the AFL committee, declared.

## Unified Front Against Open Shop Lumber Mills

EUREKA—A solid front against struck open shop mills in California's redwoods was established recently in actions by the State AFL Carpenters and Teamsters.

The State Council of Carpenters, in a letter to all locals and district councils in California, disclosed firm resolution to strangle the use of unfair lumber by tight boycott and urged increased financial and other aid to the 320-day-old strike of 5,000 Lumber and Sawmill Workers for union shop and equitable wage agreements from nine redwood industrial monopolies.

Following an Oakland conference, Teamsters and Carpenters pledged to work jointly in an "all-out effort to unionize lumber mills and woods operations" in the redwoods, "to the mutual advantage of both organizations."

The pledge was signed by International Representatives A. F. Muir, for the carpenters, and Einos Mohn, for the Teamsters.

In the letter to the carpenters, State Council Secretary D. H. Ryan revealed that a recent personal tour of the redwoods by Maurice A. Hutcheson of Indiana, first vice-president of the parent International Brotherhood of Carpenters, had brought instructions that "no member of the Brotherhood use redwood lumber, rough or surfaced, coming from mills where non-union men are working behind picket lines."

Ryan stated that all fair lumber would be stamped "AFL-8," and lumber processed by union planing mills would bear the State Council's stamp.

"All such redwood lumber so stamped you may use; no other!"

The letter stated that Representative J. F. Cambiano, State Council president, had been "advised by the General Office to see that the above instructions are complied with."

"We believe," wrote Ryan, "that every member of the Brotherhood of Carpenters in California should contribute at least \$1 per month for the duration of the strike to support the workers in the redwoods who themselves have contributed so much for the past 11 months."

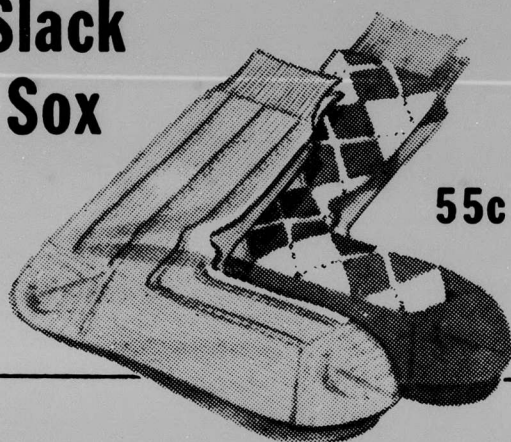
"Large employers' associations throughout the country, in steel, auto, rubber, timber and other industries, have been discussing advisability of taking on Labor in an attempt to re-establish open shop conditions at the opportune time. Since recent elections, reactionary politicians who have been supported for years by the big interests have been very voluble in discussing various patterns of legal strait-jackets that Congress may enact after it convenes in January."

"The stubborn opposition to fair conditions of employment by the wealthy owners of the Redwood forests appears to be the opening wedge against Labor in California driven by the forces of reaction."

## 80,000 Learners in Bldg. Trades

WASHINGTON (AFLN)—William F. Patterson, director of the federal apprentice training service, reported that AFL building trade unions have stepped up training programs so that nearly 80,000 apprentices are learning trades, but more skilled apprentices are needed for projected construction.

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## AFL Mission Extends Aid to German Workers

BERLIN, Germany (AFLN)—A broad pattern under which German Labor can restore itself and improve standards of living on a par with workers of free nations throughout the world was laid down here in a radio program presented by a three-man mission from the American Federation of Labor.

William C. Doherty, president of the National Association of Letter Carriers and vice-president of the American Federation of Labor; Israel Fineberg, vice-president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, and Anton Jakobs, international representative of the Butchers and Meat Cutters' Union, participated in the broadcast.

"We are of the firm conviction that free democratic trade unions contribute tremendously to the economy of our country. Our economic and social gains can be largely attributed to the fact that our membership has been voluntarily educated in all of the major problems confronting the United States in this vital post-war era," Mr. Doherty declared.

"The American workers also are conversant with the perplexing conditions facing the German workers. They know full well that our own economy eventually will suffer if the German workers are ill fed, poorly housed and denied the bare necessities of life.

"Frankly, the American Federation of Labor believes that the answer to most of the problems now facing German workers is full production. Without full production the chaotic conditions now prevailing will remain for some time.

"As a first step toward the full production goal, it is necessary to organize free democratic trade unions in all parts of Germany.

"From various sources of information, the AFL prepared a list of needs of German trade unions in carrying on union work and submitted the information to the President of the United States, the Secretary of State as well as to Lt. Gen. Lucius D. Clay. We asked that former properties of trade unions and their funds be returned to the organized unions and that their trade union officials have the use of automobiles for union business.

"Likewise, we asked that typewriters, mimeograph machines, printing presses and such other equipment as is necessary for maintaining union activities be supplied."

Mr. Doherty spoke at some length regarding the freedoms for which the AFL has consistently stood—freedom of speech, worship, assembly and press. He emphasized particularly that the AFL never has nor ever will approve labor conscription.

Mr. Fineberg told the German people that, regardless of any political differences in American Labor, AFL trade unionists have maintained a firm organization, and he advised German workers to pursue a similar course.

Discussing collective bargaining, Mr. Fineberg explained how this system works in the United States and how, in most cases, unions are able to reach an understanding with management without resort to economic strength. Understandings are reached, he said, through conferences of union and management or through mediation, conciliation or arbitration, any one of which courses is adopted by mutual consent of both parties.

Mr. Jakobs, a native of a small town on the outskirts of Essen, said he had gone to the United States some 19 years ago. He said he was extremely proud of his citizenship in the United States and the important position which he had achieved in the American Labor Movement.

"There must be a rebirth of free democratic trade unions in Germany," he told the German workers. "It is with great elation that we learned of the re-development of free democratic trade unions in various parts of Germany."

## Union Label Column

We are indebted to Mrs. Harry F. Young, label chairman of the Woman's International Auxiliary to the International Typographical Union, and secretary of the local auxiliary, for the following union label program adopted by the American Federation of Women's Auxiliaries of Labor at its convention recently held in St. Louis.

The Label Committee which prepared this report worked under the inspiring leadership of Mrs. Caroline Stiglbauer, of Wisconsin. Acting as secretary of the committee was Mrs. Harry T. Arnold, of Tennessee. Members of the committee were Mrs. Frank P. Kromenaker, of Missouri and Mrs. Harry F. Young, San Francisco. The program adopted is set forth as follows:

1—At future American Federation of Women's Auxiliaries of Labor, AFL, each delegate, in order to be seated, must present five different bona fide Union Labels.

2—AFWAL is to set aside a fund of \$5 to be awarded at each convention to the delegate having on her person the greatest number of bona fide union labels. The prize to be awarded by the convention label committee.

3—Each delegate to the convention should suggest to her organization that a label contest be held at regular intervals, a prize to be awarded to the member reporting the greatest amount of labels. These labels to be collected, saved and put into a container, to be used as the basis of a guessing, or other contest.

4—Each delegate should urge her auxiliary to see that a functioning label committee be established.

5—Each delegate should stress to her organization the importance of members supplying to their label chairman all information as to where union label merchandise may be purchased.

6—That members, both as organizations and as individuals, write to manufacturers of dinnerware, urging them to put the union label of the Brotherhood of Operative Potters on the back of their dishes. It is requested that letters be sent especially to four firms which put the union label on their dishes prior to World War II, but have refused to return the label to their merchandise: These are: Cronin China Co., Hollydale, California; French-Saxon China Co., Sebring, Ohio; Royal China Co., Sebring, Ohio, and Universal Potteries, Inc., Cambridge, Ohio.

### Minimum Wage Extension Urged

TRENTON (ILNS)—That many of the causes for strikes would be eliminated if the State supported minimum wages in more industries was the belief expressed here by State Labor Commissioner Harry C. Harper. At a State budget hearing he requested increased funds to employ supervisors of minimum wage standards for various retail trades. Commissioner Harper commented that the widespread growth of unions might not have occurred if more industries had been operating under minimum wage codes. He added that this did not mean that he opposed Labor organizations.

## LUXOR CABS

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## Oak Ridge Unions Form AFL Council

OAK RIDGE, Tenn. (ILNS)—A Central Labor Union composed of 13 unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor in atomic energy plants here has received an AFL charter.

"The new CLU represents some 7,000 project workers and its goal is 'complete unionization of Oak Ridge,'" said Kenneth L. Scott, AFL co-ordinator for the Knoxville area.

Local unions represented are electricians, asbestos workers, chemical workers, fire fighters, laundry workers, culinary workers, operating engineers, sheet metal workers, teamsters, plumbers and steamfitters, carpenters, iron workers and machinists.

### Bakery Drivers Win Increase

Agreeing to an "across-the-board" increase of \$7.50 weekly, Bakery Wagon Drivers, No. 484, successfully negotiated with the San Francisco Bakery Employers' Association. The agreement also calls for an increase of 5 per cent commission on sales over \$500. It is understood that the new agreement guarantees \$69 for 48-hour week for driver-salesmen, \$75 for 48 hours for chain store drivers and transport truck men, and \$54 for 37½ hours for inside men. The award will be retroactive to October 1.

### Open House at Blind Center

The San Francisco Center for the Blind, 1013 Van Ness avenue, will hold open house Thursday, December 5 from 3 to 5 in the afternoon. The board of directors, through their president Dr. Walter J. Straub, extends this invitation to everyone in San Francisco and the Bay Area. The open house, Dr. Straub said, is to acquaint people with the Center, its functions and its facilities and in a measure to say "thank you" for their generous purchase of Thanksgiving seals and contributions, by which the Center is supported.

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## Why the Silence?

As we go to press, the radio and daily newspapers have carried thousands upon thousands of words relative to the coal strike and the leader of the United Mine Workers of America. Yet, we have not had the side of the miners placed before the public through the same mediums.

America, which has always and rightfully prided itself on its jealous regard for free speech, now denies that right to Labor.

In the great crisis which confronts the Nation today, the voice of Labor has been arbitrarily silenced.

More than 400,000 soft coal miners, members of the United Mine Workers of America, have left the coal pits entirely on their own volition because they consider their contract terminated. No orders or instructions for a walkout were issued by the union or its officials.

To say that the coal stoppage has been condemned in the press, over the radio and through every other facility of public communication would be the ultimate of understatement.

A veritable torrent of villification and abuse has been let loose against the union and its president, John L. Lewis.

The public has heard no reply. It has heard and it continued to hear only one side of the case. The union and its leaders are silent. So must every other person in America remain silent, no matter how sympathetic he may be to the miners' cause.

### Why this silence?

The answer is not far to seek. The War Labor Disputes Act, still in effect, even though the war ended more than a year ago, specifically forbids any organization or person from doing or saying anything which may be interpreted as "encouraging" a walkout in any plant or mine seized and operated by the Government.

Thus, free speech in the current coal case is made a criminal offense.

We are making this statement because we do not believe the public understands these circumstances and may misinterpret the enforced silence imposed by law upon Labor.

Once the American people do understand, we believe their fundamental sense of fair play will cause them to suspend judgment until the officials of the United Mine Workers' Union have the opportunity to state their side of the case in court.

## Bus Drivers and Highway Safety

Much unfavorable publicity has been directed towards the operators of passenger busses operating out of this city through the numerous highway accidents involving these passenger vehicles. Our observance of these drivers on our highways leads to the conclusions that as a class of motor vehicle operators they drive safely, courteously, and considerately. The accidents involving these operators as a rule are the products of someone else. This publication does not condone careless driving by any person and believes that a careless person behind the wheel of a motor vehicle is potentially a killer and should be curbed. We are not convinced that our bus drivers can be classified as killers; we do believe that the union to which these people have membership in are as much concerned with highway accidents as anyone. Their concern about safety was evidenced in the "standee" question and in scheduling runs. We are firm in our belief that when the whole matter is thoroughly investigated that bus operators will be found to be safe drivers.

## Pictureless Cartoon

Mother (shaking Bob to awaken him): "I put your shirt on the clothes horse, dear."

Bob (sleepily): "Uh—yeh? What odds did ya get?"

## TRADE UNIONS

By WILLIAM TRANT

(Continued From Last Week)

The exclusiveness of the guilds naturally separated still more the incipient working class from their well-to-do superiors, and tended more and more to give the workmen separate views and interests, which were not infrequently antagonistic to those of the employer or "master." When two or three are gathered with identical interests (and those interests opposed to the wishes of their employers, who are already combined), it seems so natural for them to form a combination of some sort or other that it is impossible to resist the belief that in the fourteenth century the working man—excluded from the guild—would unite with his fellows, if not for general, yet for specific objects in connection with his condition. It is gratifying to learn that this view is taken by so high an authority as Dr. Lujo Brentano, who also points out that, at about the time referred to, accounts of "strikes in the building trade are particularly numerous;" and there is in existence a "royal mandate as to the workmen who have withdrawn from the palace of Westminster." Indeed, it is beyond dispute that the masons of the fourteenth century maintained a higher rate of wages than was paid to other crafts, as has been above mentioned, solely on account of the combination these artisans were able to effect; a fact that non unionists of today would do well to remember.

This view is strengthened by the fact that in 1383 the authorities of the city of London issued a proclamation forbidding all "congregations, covins, and conspiracies of workmen;" and four years later three shoemakers were carried off to Newgate for violating it; while in 1396 a similar coalition of saddlers was suppressed. Two laws also were enacted against combinations, congregations, and chapters of workmen (which had been established to limit the number of working hours), viz., the 34 Edward IV, c. 9, and 3 Henry VI, c. 1. The punishments inflicted upon working men for combining were very severe, and yet they combined in spite of such punishments. The endeavors of the laborers to raise wages showed themselves most prominently in the trades in which, as in the cloth manufacturers, development was most rapidly progressing, and in which there existed a large working class.

The prosperity of the laborers and artisans produced events that alarmed the privileged classes. The emancipation of the serfs had for some time past proceeded very rapidly, from causes which have been already indicated. Professor Thorold Rogers, after an enormous amount of research, writes of the fourteenth century, "In the many thousands of bailiffs and manor rolls which I have read, I have never met with a single instance of the sale of a serf, nor have I discovered any labor rent for which an equitable money payment could not be substituted." Indeed, during the reign of Edward II, the practice became general of accepting money compensation in lieu of labor rents; and at the end of a quarter of a century the rule had become almost universal. The improvement in the condition of the serfs created an amount of independence among them that had the happiest results.

Sir Robert Sale, Captain-General of Norwich in 1381, was the son of a villain, was born a serf, as was also Grostete, the great Oxford scholar of the thirteenth century, thus showing that even in those days serfs could rise to very high positions. There is abundant evidence, too, that they became possessed of property, and indeed, as they became enfranchised, they also became copyholders. It is certain they paid rent, which indicates a real bargain between the lord and the serf which the former could not break if the other satisfied his dues; and he could recover wages due to him from his lordly employer by distraint upon his goods, even upon his chattels, and therefore could not be a chattel himself. The impetus given to this process by the general rise after the Black Death was brief, and that plague, in short, emancipated almost the whole of the surviving serfs.

It was, therefore, amongst a prosperous and independent class that Wiclif's "Poor Priests," or Lollards, followed by John Ball, also a priest, preached doctrines that in those days were revolutionary doctrines, and, in the eyes of some people, are so still. From village to village the old couplet was repeated:

"When Adam dived and Eve span,  
Who was then the gentleman?"

The people were taught that those who labored, did so not only for themselves, but to enable others to live without labor, or to live by mischievous labor. The "equality" expounded in the Bible was explained to them, and generally it was impressed upon them that they were oppressed by a privileged class whom accident, fraud, or force had placed in a superior social sphere.

(Continued Next Week)

## Wisdom

"Poverty is a soft pedal upon all branches of human activity, not excepting the spiritual."—H. L. Mencken.

## Community Chest Information Service

By FRANK FITZGERALD

**Question**—Now that my children are grown up, I find I have the accumulation of years of toys and playthings in my basement. They are all in good condition and I would like very much to see other children have the fun that mine did out of them. Do you think they can be used?

**Answer**—Yes, of course. Toys of any shape or variety, no matter how old, are always welcome gifts to children. In San Francisco, a good many agencies (Community Chest agencies included), such as community centers, boys' and girls' clubs, family service organizations, and day nurseries can use them. If you want the toys and playthings to go to the children who most need them, I would suggest you give them directly to an agency which knows the background of the children and families in its care. The agency will see to it that the most deserving are awarded your children's treasures.

## Letter to the Editor

EDITOR, LABOR CLARION:

I understand that a local department store advertised for a man to play Santa Claus, but specified that he must not be over 35 years old. If this is true, then the job must be so tough that "poor old Santa" would probably not be able to stand the grind. Furthermore, if the store *did* advertise as outlined above, it makes me glad that I belong to a union which does not permit such rank discrimination of age against its members, especially in a position that is the acme of the spirit of "good will."

San Francisco, Calif.

## Clarion Calls

By TEMPLE SNOOPER

All the gals of Beauticians No. 12, are busily preparing for their dance to be held this Saturday, November 30 at the Scottish Rite Auditorium. Something new and exotic should certainly be seen in coiffures!

Has anyone ever noticed Joseph St. Angelo's fondness for ice cream cones???

One of our more rabid movie fans is Aileen Kehoe . . . who sees practically every picture to come out of Hollywood!

We hope that everyone gave thanks yesterday for the many things that everyone has to be thankful for this year.

## Your Stake in World Affairs

**Question**—How many women are serving as delegates to the United Nations' General Assembly?

**Answer**—Four countries—the United States, India, New Zealand, and the Dominican Republic—have women members. They are Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mrs. Pandit, who is heading the Indian delegation; Miss Minerva Bernardino of the Dominican Republic, and Mrs. Rutherford McIntosh of New Zealand.

## What Next?

A new flashlight has a reflector composed of 288 diamond-shaped metal facets which, says the manufacturer, not only afford a brighter light, but eliminates the center "dark circle" common in most flashlight beams.

## Curtin's Corner

By JOHN H. CURTIN

(Member of S. F. Typographical Union 21)

### GOD'S COUNTRY

Let us thank God for Freedom, the only real security! With Freedom goes the responsibility of keeping free. Since Freedom must be for all, if it is to be for one, Freedom creates democracy.

Democracy, if it is to mean less government instead of more, will always change to meet changing needs. Changes provide chances for errors, for failures in understanding, for weaknesses in judgment.

Errors are usually first noticed by those who hope to profit by them . . . and those super-men who ridicule in bullying fashion the weaknesses of others are rarely able to survive their own.

In people, as in nations, bravery defeats the bully . . . and strength of character educates away the cause of errors.

Thus, we have won our wars with courage . . . and we can win our peace with fortitude.

So we progress, by trial and error, and grow in spite of growing pains.

When we consider ALL our mistakes, and note also how great our Nation has grown in spite of them, we must humbly admit this MUST BE "God's country."



## Green's Statement on Coal Mine Situation

WASHINGTON (AFLN)—Following is the statement issued by AFL President William Green regarding the work stoppage in the Nation's soft coal mines:

An adequate supply of coal for commercial and domestic purposes is an essential requirement to the comfort, well-being and prosperity of the Nation. The machinery of government should operate in such a way as to promote full production of coal.

This purpose can be achieved only if the miners mine coal. Nobody else can do it. They must serve and work and produce coal if the domestic and commercial needs of the Nation are to be fully supplied.

Neither troops with bayonets, nor court injunctions, nor the incarceration of miners or their representatives in jail, can serve to produce one single ton of coal. Only the skilled, trained, courageous, free mine workers who are willing to risk their lives in the coal mines each day, can do this.

Apparently Mr. Krug, Secretary of the Interior, and his associates, ignored these facts when they precipitated the crisis which now prevails in mines throughout the Nation. Miners are idle. This tragic situation was not caused by the issuance of an order by any union or by the representatives of a union. What caused it? The public ought to know, should know, and must be told.

Denunciation and insulting abuse of individuals will not bring about a resumption of mining operations. The facts show that the representatives of the government, which now operates the mines of the Nation, failed to deal constructively with the problems and proposals relating to overtime employment, welfare funds, vacation payments and safety problems, brought to their attention by the direction of the 400,000 mine workers of the Nation through their chosen representatives who participated in a regular mine workers' convention. Their representatives of the government assumed a rigid, inflexible, negative position.

Neither the Department of Labor nor the Conciliation Service of the Department of Labor, was brought into the picture. This service, which is utilized in controversies which arise between employers and employees in private industry, was rejected, ignored and never used by the representatives of the government when they dealt with the problems and proposals presented by the mine workers for solution.

The government representatives, adding insult to injury to the workers of the Nation, have resorted to the use of the injunction process and as a result have made an extremely bad situation much worse. Labor regards this step on the part of the government as a violation of the Norris-LaGuardia Act. It represents force, violence and the threat of punishment on the part of the government.

Not only the miners who mine the coal but the workers of the Nation resent this action on the part of the government. Workers everywhere have become thoroughly aroused and thoroughly conscious of the implications involved in the use of the injunction process in this situation originated and sponsored by the government.

Reports from all sections show that the miners have individually discontinued work on their own initiative, and without orders from any source whatsoever.

In my opinion, the government's resort to the injunctive process, with its enslaving and incriminating effects, will have the opposite result of that intended. Instead of returning to work, the miners who have voluntarily walked out will voluntarily refuse to return until a new contract becomes effective.

All American Labor unites with the mine workers in condemning this reversion to the archaic philosophy of government by injunction and this perversion of the Norris-LaGuardia Act.

### Union Delegate Dies

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (ILNS)—Benjamin B. Briscoe of Chester, Pa., delegate to the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen's convention at Miami, became ill on his way home and died in a hospital here. He had been a conductor for the Pennsylvania Railroad for the last 38 years.

## Deaths in Labor's Ranks

IN SAN FRANCISCO

Ludwell, Frederick—November 16; Building Service Employees' 9.

Million, Harry H.—November 17; Waiters' 30.

Yates, George W.—November 21; Teamsters' 85.

Delopulos, Angelo P.—November 21; Cooks' 44.

O'Malley, John Thomas—November 21; Molders' 164.

Hecker, Charles M.—November 22; Typographical 21.

Bougueniaux, George P.—November 24; Cooks' 44.

Briscoe, Walter Miller—November 25; Operating Engineers' 3.

OUTSIDE SAN FRANCISCO

MacManaman, Harry Sarsfield—In Oakland November 22; Musicians' 6.

Dunbar, George Taylor—In San Mateo November 23; Carpenters' 162.

### Retail Store Sales Rise

28 Per Cent in One Year

WASHINGTON (AFLN)—An estimate from the Department of Commerce shows that retail store sales during September were \$8,203,000,000. This figure is 28 per cent higher than in September of 1945, but 2 per cent below last August, after adjustment for seasonal factors and the difference in the number of shopping days.

The estimate shows that total retail sales in the three months ending September 30 set a record quarterly high, 31 per cent above the same quarter last year and 7 per cent above the second quarter this year after seasonal adjustment. The chief factor, however, was the rise in prices, the department stated.

### Southern Dairy Union Gains

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AFLN)—The employees of Southern Dairies, Inc., all members of Chauffeurs and Teamsters Local 621, have received various improved conditions in their renewal agreement. The new agreement was signed on October 17, and will be in force for one year. All employees received an over-all 10 per cent increase, five holidays with pay with a stipulation clause for premium pay on holidays. The inside employees were granted a 54-hour work week, with time and a half for all work after 40 hours. Retail drivers will receive double time, where they were formerly paid time and a half for all work performed on the seventh consecutive day.

### Indiana Stone Cutters Strike

BEDFORD, Ind. (ILNS)—About 1,000 stone cutters, carvers and planermen quit work in mills in the Bloomington-Bedford limestone belt, beginning the industry's first major walkout in 20 years. A spokesman of the Indiana Limestone Institute's Labor Committee said the committee had offered a flat wage increase of 21½ cents an hour while the Journeymen Stonecutters' Association of North America, American Federation of Labor affiliate, had asked 25 cents.

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## Help! Do Your Christmas Mailing Early This Year

Postmaster William H. McCarthy predicted that Christmas 1946 notwithstanding storms and prophets of gloom, would be the heaviest mailing in our history.

"There is only one solution to the problem," he continued, "and that is to shop early and mail early. Of course our people have all heard that before, but it is the only way to spread the volume of Christmas mails over a longer period and lighten the strain on our transportation systems which are still carrying abnormal loads."

This is the schedule to follow: Mail for outside States should be deposited well in advance of December 10. Christmas gifts and greetings for California should be in the mails not later than December 15th, and for local delivery not later than December 18. These dates guarantee delivery of your gifts and cards by Christmas.

Patrons who are unable to comply with these mailing dates should take advantage of air mail. The new rate of five cents an ounce is most attractive. However, air mail also takes time and bad weather may further complicate the problem. Therefore, air mail should be deposited not more than three days later than the closing dates suggested for ordinary mail.

The regular stations of the San Francisco Post Office will remain open on Saturday and Sunday, the 14th and 15th of December, from 8 in the morning until 6 at night. Commencing December 16 through December 22 and including Saturday and Sunday, all regular stations will remain open from 8 a. m. to 8 p. m.

### \$8,000,000 for USES

WASHINGTON (AFLN)—The U. S. Labor Department has allocated \$8,000,000 to the States for operation of the former United States Employment Service until the end of the calendar year. The Federal Government has operated the USES since January, 1942, and the return of the service to the States means that approximately 23,000 employees went off the Federal payroll on November 15 and started as State employees on November 18.

### New Marble Contract

SYLACAUGA, Ala. (AFLN)—A contract has been concluded with the Alabama Marble Co., the Harrah Marble Corp. and the International Marble Workers (AFL), providing paid vacations, holiday pay, hourly raises of from 7½ cents to 25 cents (average 15), four hours reporting pay, shift differential of 5 and 10 cents an hour, and maintenance of membership with irrevocable checkoff.

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## Run o' the Hook

By C. M. BAKER,  
President of Typographical Union No. 21

Charles M. Hecker, for many years a highly esteemed member of the *Call-Bulletin Chapel*, passed away on last Friday, November 22, at his home in this city. "Charlie," who retired several years ago to go upon the union's pension roll, had been a member of the ITU for more than half a century and had always been a keen participant in union activities. A native of Ohio, Mr. Hecker for some years was an instructor in that State's School for the Deaf. Moving westward, Mr. Hecker was, for a time, editor of a newspaper in Idaho and later served as a member of the Utah legislature. Of kind and gentlemanly disposition, he was a real judge of human values and his companionship will be missed by those with whom he was associated for so many years. Our deceased member is survived by his widow, Jean C. Hecker; a son, C. Todd Hecker (also a member of No. 21); a daughter, Mrs. Margaret E. Fleming, and four grandchildren. Funeral services under the auspices of No. 21 were held on Monday from the Reilly mortuary with later interment at Cypress Lawn.

At a special meeting on November 17 Oakland Union adopted a proposed 1947 newspaper contract, which was practically a reprint of the contract adopted by No. 21 at its October meeting.

Suspension of the *Los Angeles Herald-Express*, caused by a strike of the Guild on September 4, continues in the twelfth week, despite the willingness of that organization, expressed several weeks ago, to return to work. Contracts with the mechanical unions expired subsequent to the suspension and those unions have refused to resume work until new agreements have been consummated.

The strike of Rochester Typographical Union against the newspapers of that city, begun on November 8, continues. Latest development was the refusal of the photo-engravers to handle "copy" for abbreviated editions of the newspapers, thus bringing suspension of publication.

Springfield, Mass., with a population of approximately 200,000, has for eight weeks been a city without a newspaper, following a strike by the printing trades unions.

The *Chicago Tribune* last week announced a voluntary increase of 20 per cent in the pay of all its "white collar" employees. The announcement followed, by a few days, the acceptance of a \$10 increase in scale by Chicago Typographical Union for all newspaper printers of that city.

The *Scranton Times* has announced inauguration of a pension plan for all its employees. Under the *Times'* plan, each employee, upon reaching retirement age, will receive a pension equivalent to 20 per cent of regular annual earnings, computed for the three years previous to retirement, plus \$1 a month for each year of service.

Subsequent to the rejection by Washington Typographical Union by a vote of 1,352 against to 669 for, in a referendum on October 10 of a new commercial scale negotiated by ITU Vice-President Brown and recommended to the membership by that official, Mr. Brown returned to Washington and insisted upon a second vote at a union meeting which he addressed. In the second vote the union again rejected Mr. Brown's recommendation that a two-year contract calling for a weekly wage of \$70.13 be accepted. Following the second rejection of the job scale negotiated and recommended by Vice-President Brown, that official sent to the officers of Washington Union a copy of an ITU Executive Council decision, in which the local union president was mandated to report the names and register numbers of any members who might act in accordance with a local resolution and accept temporary work in a shop other than that in which they hold priority. Under the mandate issued by the ITU Executive Council Washington's President Manbeck is threatened with the loss of his more than thirty years' continuous membership, antedating that of all except one of the ITU officers. In its mandate, the ITU Executive Council states it does not recognize the adverse vote of Washington union "as representative of the membership of Columbia Typographical Union No. 101." Reports from New York (the home of Vice-President Brown) and other Eastern cities is that Washington Union will be mandated to approve the two-year, \$70.13-a-week job scale negotiated by Mr. Brown.

Former President Fred Holderby and Mrs. Holderby last week visited with Ben Skinner, formerly a member of No. 21, at his home in Kentfield. Skinner is now employed at Sausalito. Continuing up the Redwood Highway, the Holderbys called on Mr. (Pat) and Mrs. F. E. Woodward at Santa Rosa. Woodward, also a former member of San Francisco Union, is a situation holder on the Santa Rosa newspaper and recently purchased a beautiful home and a 10-acre prune orchard located just outside Santa Rosa.

## Bay Area Labor Week

**NOVEMBER 20**—Masters, Mates and Pilots No. 90 place pickets on the local docks as union prepares to vote on shipowners' "final contract proposals" . . . Labor makes suggestions for revising State Workmen's Compensation law, viz., better medical service, increasing maximum disability payment to \$40 weekly, extending claim file time to one year, provide prompt payment and to penalize employers for unjustified stops of compensation by them of their insurance carriers, abolish seven-day waiting period, making compensation payable for one or more days; attorney fees to be paid by employer, and remove law of ignorance as a defense for failing to provide required safety standards.

**NOVEMBER 21**—No trouble over Masters, Mates and Pilots' picket lines locally, although CMU-CIO declared observance would be for one day.

**NOVEMBER 22**—Strike sanction was requested of San Francisco Labor Council by Carmen 1380 against California Street Cable Car Company if company does not allow \$1.24 per hour municipal railway wage rate for gripman and conductors . . . Retail Liquor and Cigar Clerks' Union likewise requested strike sanction against their employers if new satisfactory contract is not agreed with ending of present contract November 30 . . . Bartley Crum, local attorney and liberal, urges caution in anti-Labor legislation by new Congress.

**NOVEMBER 23**—Masters, Mates and Pilots' 90 vote favorably on new working agreement and normal work schedules start on waterfront; the union gained 15 per cent wage increase, travel allowance, work rules adjustments, subsistence and room allowances.

**NOVEMBER 24**—Great activity along San Francisco's waterfront as workers prepare to move ships following settlement of maritime strike . . . Harry Lundberg wants NLRB to complete Isthmian Line jurisdiction claim by Sailors' Union of the Pacific, which has been hanging fire for some time.

**NOVEMBER 25**—Milton Maxwell, butchers' union leader, announces that a Purity Store at Hunters' Point will open under a Monday closing agreement . . . Sailors' Union of Pacific claim victory in NLRB bargaining election on 90 Isthmian vessels.

## Woman's Auxiliary No. 21 to S. F. Typographical Union No. 21

By J. ANN MCLEOD

The Ways and Means Committee of Woman's Auxiliary No. 21 to Typographical Union No. 21 met at the home of President Loraine Kriese last Tuesday afternoon. After a delicious luncheon served by our hostess topped off with ice cream and cookies, a surprise by Mrs. Dorothea Heuring, the committee got busy and accomplished a lot of work in a short while. Aprons, aprons! All kinds, trimmed with yards and yards of bias tape, bolts of ric-rac and ruffles galore, ranging in size from the big, all-over styles to the petite postage stamp variety, all very reasonably priced. Dish towels, too, the full size flour sacks, all beautifully embroidered in colorful, attractive designs. Potholders, toys and many other needed items. All these articles will be on sale at our annual bazaar to be held Wednesday evening, December 4, in the downstairs banquet room in the Red Men's Building, 240 Golden Gate avenue. Sale starts at 7:30, first come, first served. Home cooked foods will be served by the entertainment committee. Several other interesting features will be furnished by the committees and some lucky person will go home with a well-filled grocery basket. All members are requested to attend this affair, one of three held annually to support our auxiliary. Come and bring your friends.

By the time this edition of the *Labor Clarion* reaches our members, the Thanksgiving turkey will have reached its final end, hash, soup or croquettes. We hope all our members and friends enjoyed a happy holiday.

Due to the extra activities during December, there will be no meeting of the executive committee until after the first of the year.

The Entertainment Committee will have something of interest to our members in the next edition of the *Labor Clarion*. Watch for it.

W.A. No. 21 has two applications for membership. The members of our auxiliary are very happy to welcome Mrs. Edith M. Penn, wife of Mr. John H. Penn, employed by the Recorder Printing Co., and Mrs. Tess

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## WSB, 6,700 Cases Behind, Sets Windup for Jan. 15

WASHINGTON (AFLN)—Pointing toward its early liquidation, the Wage Stabilization Board informed its regional boards to wind up all pending enforcement cases by January 15.

Under present plans all cases unsettled by that date will be turned over to another governmental agency. The general belief here is that they will be referred to the Internal Revenue Bureau, a transfer which had been urged consistently by the American Federation of Labor.

The ruling also advised processing of voluntary disclosures made by employers interested in getting a final determination of their liabilities before the tripartite national board expires. Of the 6,700 pending cases, 343 involved wage decreases alleged to have been made in violation of the now expired controls.

Pending cases are distributed as follows: New York, 796; Boston, 5336; Philadelphia, 1,429; Atlanta, 436; Cleveland, 902; Chicago, 543; Kansas City, 330; Dallas, 794; San Francisco, 356; Detroit, 349, and Seattle, 317.

## Union Printers Golf Association

By P. INCHIT TER

Howdy folks. This is the Chinese Philosopher taking over for the Old Indian Guide who isn't so skookum of late, although at the last smoke signal from him teepee he is giving a good fight and hopes to be up and about now that his arduous gridiron training is about at an end.

Sixteen of the more adventurous duffers and five guests took in Tilden golf course this last Sunday and enjoyed one of the most pleasant and mellow of jousts with old man par under perfect and brilliant if not too warm solar rays. This sporty course was in top shape and moist only in spots, as can be attested to by George Gallick who won Class A, and Ned DiGrazia, who won Class B with sub-par rounds. Ned, the stroke-master, netted a neat 64, a mere seven strokes under par, and George, the Gallick, netted a 68, three under.

"Steamer" Nicholson, our brexv, got hot and shot two under par for second in Class A, with Charles White coming in third with a neat 74. In Class B, Earl Mead placed and "Blacky" Blackford and his cocker spaniel came in for show.

Dick Smith, no relation to the secretary, playing as a guest for his first out and who will be a regular member next year, really cashed in in no mean way by taking both the guest flight and the hole-in-one contest, the latter by a "By" shot nine feet, one inch from the flag. Fred Bartell, our old faithful guest, took second in both events. Better luck next time, Fred.

Thanksgiving dinners will be more than enjoyed by Ben Apte, Wayne Dye and Ted Van Hook who took home the turkeys. By the way, boys, philosophers like turkey too, light or dark meat, so how's about an invite?

"Admiral" Mead acquired a new cup, highball size, which has two handles for two-fisted antiprohis, and has promised to give a sample of his mas-mixer, mis-maxter, oh damn, mist-maxer technique to his Chinese friend, The Philosopher, if some kind soul will give a poor heathen a lift to Earl's abode. This cup was one of the headline attractions of the November tournament, the Cullenward cup. Congratulations, Earl.

That's all for now folks. Keep 'em straight down—the fairway.

Randall, wife of Mr. Leo Randall, mailer, employed by the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Donelin received a very happy surprise Saturday, November 16, when Mr. and Mrs. Frank Fox drove in from Potters Valley, near Ukiah, for a visit. As bride and groom, Mr. and Mrs. Donelin occupied a duplex for three years with Mr. and Mrs. Fox and their three-year-old son. Mrs. Fox was a nurse before her marriage and is one of those rare persons who can get all dressed up and go visiting and take over the cooking and housework without offending her hostess, thus giving Julia a much needed rest and a change of diet that was beneficial to her injured wrist. Mr. and Mrs. Fox returned to Potters Valley last Tuesday, where they make their home with their only son and his wife and four grandchildren in a seven-room house on a 70-acre ranch. The Donelins and their guests were entertained by several mutual friends during their stay.

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## S.F. Labor Council

Secretary's Office and Headquarters:  
Labor Temple, 2940 Sixteenth Street (Room 214)  
Headquarters Phone: Market 6304

The Labor Council meets every Friday at 8 p. m., at the Labor Temple. The Executive and Arbitration Committee meets every Monday, at 8 p. m. The Organizing Committee meets every Friday at 7:30 p. m. The Union Label Section meets the first Wednesday of every month, at 7:30 p. m.

### SYNOPSIS OF MEETING OF THE SAN FRANCISCO LABOR COUNCIL, HELD FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1946.

Meeting was called to order at 8:15 p. m. by Vice-President Rotell.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**—All present excepting President Shelley, who was excused; Brother Rainbow acting as vice-president.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**—Minutes of previous meeting approved as printed in the Labor Clarion.

**CREDENTIALS**—Referred to the Organizing Committee: American Federation of Radio Artists—Carl Christopher; Apartment and Hotel Employees No. 14—Ruth Capp, Russell R. Dreyer, James A. Sturgeon, John J. Rowan, H. C. Ray; Brewers, Maltsters and Yeast Workers No. 893—Frank Mayer vice Anton Reichmuth, and Glass Bottle Blowers No. 141—Don M. Witt vice James Crowley.

**REPORT OF THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**—(Meeting held Friday, November 22.) Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p. m. Roll was called and absentees noted. The following was examined and having been found to possess the necessary qualifications, was recommended by your committee to be seated as delegates to this Council: Office Employees No. 36—Albert Brundage. Meeting adjourned at 8 p. m. (Report of the committee was concurred in as a whole.)

**COMMUNICATIONS**—Filed: From State Senator John F. Shelley expressing his appreciation for the support received in his recent campaign. From Pile Drivers No. 34, enclosing a resolution containing service directives. From the Retail Clerks No. 1288, expressing their thanks in their recent dispute with the Sherry's Liquor Stores. From the Building Trades Council, minutes of their meeting of November 7. From the California State Federation of Labor, Weekly News Letter, dated November 13.

**BILLS** were read, approved by the trustees and ordered paid.

**DONATIONS**—To the Organizational and Strategy Committee—Coopers No. 65, \$103; Operating Engineers No. 39, \$200; Office Employees No. 36, \$50; Shipyard Laborers No. 886, \$200, and Leather and Novelty Workers No. 31, \$50. To the Community Chest—Coopers No. 65, \$267.

**RESOLUTION**—Submitted by the Sailors' Union of the Pacific and Cooks No. 44, pledging full support to the United Mine Workers. Motion made and seconded to adopt; carried.

**REFERRED TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**—From the Central Labor Council of Orange County requesting financial aid. From Chauffeurs No. 265, submitting a copy of their new Meter Cab Agreement for approval. From the Local Joint Executive Board of Culinary Workers, Bartenders and Hotel Service Workers, requesting strike sanction against Gotham Orange Juice, 201 Powell street; Marine Memorial Club, 609 Sutter street, and Almo Grill, 1233 Golden Gate avenue. From the Pharmacists No. 838, requesting strike sanction against the retail druggists represented by Walter Gnerich, secretary of the Northern California Retail Druggists' Association, 503 Market street; Owl—Rexall—Sontag Co., 657 Mission street; Walgreen Co.; Owl—Rexall—Sontag Co., 657 Mission street; Walgreen Co.; Weinstein and Co.; Benatar's, and all other pharmacies with which this union has contracts. From Carmen's Union No. 1380, requesting strike sanction against the California Street Cable Railroad Company. From the United Garment Cutters No. 45, submitting a copy of their new agreement for approval.

**REFERRED TO THE LABOR CLARION**—From the AFL Organizing Committee of San Mateo County enclosing a copy of the audit of the funds of that committee.

**REQUEST COMPLIED WITH**—From the San Francisco Child Care Council, requesting that the name of President Shelley be added to their list of sponsors.

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**—(Meeting held Monday, November 18.) Meeting was called to order at 8 p. m. by Chairman Shelley. Roll was called and absentees noted. In the matter of the Leather and Novelty Workers No. 31, requesting strike sanction against the Olsen Nolte Saddle Shop and the Visalia Saddle Shop; Messrs. Pope and Irvin appeared for the Visalia Saddle Shop; no one present for the Olsen Nolte Saddle Shop. The committee was in possession of a communication from Mr. David Rubenstein, attorney for the Olsen Nolte Company. After hearing all parties at interest, your committee recommends that strike sanction be granted. In the matter of the Florists, Landscapers, Golf and Nursery Workers, Local No. 167, on two firms, Henry Schrupp and Mohr and Tamke. Mr. Schrupp was present; Brothers Guiney and Kielegger representing the union. This matter will be held in committee for a period of one week. The matter of the Local Joint Executive Board of Culinary Workers and Bartenders and two restaurants, will be held over for one week, no committee appearing. In the matter of the proposed agreement between the Mailers No. 18 and the Newspaper Publishers' Association, Brother Ross was present representing the union who explained the changes in the new agreement. These changes were: An increase in the hourly rate of pay, establishing a 7-hour night shift, 7½-hour day shift, and 6½ hours on the second night shift, a new vacation clause, retirement benefits, etc. The scale has received the approval of the International Union and your committee recommends approval with the usual admonition. Your committee recommends approval of the working agreement of Furniture Workers No. 3141. Brother Oddone and a committee were present representing the union. This agreement calls for a 23 per cent increase, improved seniority and paid holidays. Your committee recommends approval, subject to approval of the International Union. Beauticians No. 12, requesting that the Shangra-La Beauty Salon be placed on the "We Do Not Patronize" list. Sister McFarland was present representing the Union. Your committee recommends that this establishment be placed on the "We Do Not Patronize" list. Because of Thanksgiving falling on the eve of the date of the next Council meeting, the Committee recommends that no meeting be held on November 29. Meeting adjourned at 10:50 p. m. (Report of the committee was concurred in as a whole.)

**REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE**—Brother Ray C. Lasater, Liaison Officer, USES, submitted a written report in reference to the men hired by the various local unions through his office. Motion was made and seconded that the report be concurred in; carried.

**REPORTS OF UNIONS**—Delegate Fitch, Operating Engineers No. 39, reported that they have signed a closed shop agreement with the ice plants in Northern California. Delegate Silverstein, Retail Shoe Clerks No. 410, reported that they have been picketing the Regal Shoe Company for four and a half days, and now enjoy a union shop agreement.

## Resolution

The following resolution, prepared by the Sailors' Union of the Pacific and presented to the San Francisco Labor Council Friday night, November 22, was concurred in by the council:

Re: *United Mine Workers of America*

Whereas, The United Mine Workers' agreement expired midnight, Wednesday, November 20th, and

Whereas, Once again Government departments, namely the Department of the Interior and the Attorney General's office are playing politics at the mine workers' expense, by ruling the mine workers' wages must remain frozen as long as the government runs the mines, and

Whereas, Such an arbitrary ruling is just another maneuver to do away with the true collective bargaining, inasmuch as the operators can keep the mines under government operation and the miners' wages frozen by merely refusing to even attempt to reach an agreement with the United Mine Workers, and

Whereas, This is a direct attack on ALL UNIONS, as well as the United Mine Workers, for with the present inflation, any union could be broken by the government taking over an industry, and freezing wages, while living costs continue to skyrocket; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we pledge the United Mine Workers full physical and financial support in their fight for wage increases and to smash the government's wage-freeze order; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we ask all American Federation of Labor unions, and Central Labor Bodies to take similar action; and be it still further

RESOLVED, That we request William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, to call an immediate meeting of the Executive Board in order to rally complete support of the entire American Federation of Labor and the Labor Movement behind the miners in their fight and to take whatever steps necessary to smash once and for all these attempts at regimentation of the American workers; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That our action shall be given the widest possible publicity.

A similar resolution was submitted by Cooks' Union, No. 44.

## U. S. Tax Receipts Fall

WASHINGTON (AFLN)—According to the Internal Revenue Bureau, Federal tax receipts in September fell \$510,511,000 below a year ago. Returns from the excess profits tax decreased \$606,578,000. Receipts from all taxes were \$3,611,000,000, and from the excess profits tax \$988,783,000.

Delegate from Beauticians No. 12 reported that that Local in sponsoring a dance to be held at the Scottish Rite Auditorium on Saturday, November 30. Delegate Trefts, American Federation of Radio Artists, reported on the position of the union and the radio industry in its national negotiations and its local negotiations, and requested strike sanction against KPO, KGO, KQW and KFRC. Delegate May, Masters, Mates and Pilots, No. 90, reported on his local's position in the waterfront situation. Delegate Lundberg, Sailors' Union of the Pacific, reported that his local has been out since September 4 and have backed every organization on the waterfront, including the CIO.

**NEW BUSINESS**—Delegate May, Masters, Mates and Pilots No. 90, made a motion that the secretary be requested to notify all AFL locals be refrained from giving support to the Committee for Maritime Unity in the present request for funds; motions seconded and carried. Delegate Johns, Retail Cigar and Liquor Clerks No. 1089, made a motion that the Executive Committee be empowered to grant strike sanction to the Retail Cigar and Liquor Clerks No. 1089; motion seconded and carried.

**GOOD AND WELFARE**—The Federal Security Agency, U. S. Public Health Service of San Francisco, presented a food-handler training program to the delegates via slides and commentary.

**RECEIPTS, \$2,240; DISBURSEMENTS, \$1,485.39.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 p. m.

JOHN A. O'CONNELL, Secretary.

## Another Victory for Boycott and Picketing

SAN FRANCISCO (CFLN)—Another victory was scored by the California State Federation of Labor in its fight against the attacks being made throughout the State on the right of unions to boycott and picket, when it was held that the Hartman Concrete Building Materials Company had shown no cause for action in bringing suit against the Operating Engineers, Teamsters, Plasterers, Kern County Central Labor Council, and other unions.

The company had filed a complaint against the various unions, claiming that there was a jurisdictional dispute between the operating engineers and the teamsters, when, in reality, the concern itself had refused to sign a union contract, and all Labor organizations in Bakersfield and vicinity were co-operating in defense of union principles and union conditions.

The employer filed suit on October 15, seeking a temporary restraining order. This would have prevented the unions from exercising any of their normal constitutional rights and would practically have given the employer, at the very beginning of the case, all that he would have got by winning it. The Judge, however, refused not only to grant a restraining order, but also refused to proceed with the order to show cause, which meant that he would not listen to the company's witnesses testify as to the great amount of damage which the employer was suffering from the picket line, until the attorneys had an opportunity to make an argument on the law to determine whether the employer was entitled to an injunction under any circumstances.

This procedure was strenuously opposed by the company's attorneys, but the Judge stood his ground and insisted upon hearing arguments as to whether the employer had any cause of action at all before taking up the matter of issuing a restraining order or a temporary injunction.

After the legal arguments had been made by attorneys representing the various unions, the company's attorney found that he had to have more time to investigate the authorities and file a reply. The union attorneys then requested reasonable time to file an argument in rebuttal, if it should be necessary. In due course the arguments were filed and the court sustained the demurrer of the unions, holding that the company had shown no cause of action. No restraining order or injunction was issued and the case was later dismissed.

## '47 Production Outlook Bright

NEW YORK CITY (AFLN)—American Labor and industry, since V-J Day, have achieved the highest output of goods and services in the Nation's history, and face a bright outlook for the coming year. This summarizes a report by Civilian Production Administrator John D. Small in an address before the National Industrial Conference Board here. American Labor and industry can look forward to an excellent year in 1947, he declared, if 57,000,000 to 58,000,000 persons can be kept employed at roughly current real earnings; if the Nation can avoid a new wave of labor-management strife and if price changes can be limited to minimum corrections.

## Factories' Inventories High

WASHINGTON (AFLN)—A report by the Commerce Department revealed that the value of manufacturers' inventories rose another \$400,000,000 in September to total nearly \$18,800,000,000. This advance just about equaled that of August and this increase has been maintained since the first of the year. The department declared that inventories are now \$2,500,000,000 above January 1, with the third quarter accounting for a \$1,600,000,000 increase.

## WE DON'T PATRONIZE LIST

The concerns listed below are on the "We Don't Patronize" list of the San Francisco Labor Council. Members of labor unions and sympathizers are requested to note this list carefully from week to week:

Adam Hat Stores, Inc., 844 Market, 119 Kearny.	1412 Market St., and the Ford Apartments, 957 Mission St.).	Sealey Mattress Company, 6699 San Pablo Ave., Oakland.
Advance Pattern Company, 552 Mission.	Drake Cleaners and Dyers.	Shangra-La Beauty Salon, 1677 Washington.
Austin Studio, 833 Market.	Farmer Bros.' Coffee	Sloane, W. & J.
Becker Distributing Company.	Forrester Cornice Works, 269 Potrero.	Smith, L. C., Typewriter Company, 545 Market.
Bruener, John, Company.	Gantner & Mattern, 1453 Mission.	Speed-E Menu Service, 693 Mission.
B & G Sandwich Shops.	Gates Rubber Company, 2700 - 16th St.	Stanford University Hospital, Clay and Webster.
California Watch Case Company.	General Distillers, Ltd., 136 Front St.	Sutro Baths and Skating Rink.
California Chocolates Company, 137 Grant avenue.	Goldstone Bros., Manufacturers of overalls and working men's clothing.	Swift & Co.
Chan Quon, photo engraver, 680 Clay.	Lucerne Apartments, 766 Sutter.	"Time" and "Life" (magazines), products of the unfair Donnelley firm (Chicago).
Curtis Publishing Co. (Philadelphia), publishers of "Saturday Evening Post," "Ladies' Home Journal," "Country Gentleman," "Holiday."	National Beauty Salon, 207 Powell.	Underwood Typewriter Company, 531 Market.
Doran Hotels (include St. Regis, 85 Fourth St.; Mint, 141 Fifth St.; Hale, 939 Mission St.; Land, 936 Mission St.; Hillsdale, 51 Sixth St.; Grand Central,	O'Keefe-Merritt Stove Co., Products, Los Angeles.	
	Pacific Label Company, 1150 Folsom.	
	Remington-Rand, Inc., 509 Market.	
	Romaine Photo Studio, 220 Jones.	
	Royal Typewriter Company, 153 Kearny.	

All non-union independent taxicabs.  
Barber Shops that do not display the shop card of the Journeymen Barbers' Union are unfair.  
Beauty Shops that do not display the shop card of the Hair-

dressers and Cosmetologists' Department of the Journeymen Barbers' International Union of America are unfair.  
Locksmith Shops which do not display the union shop card of Federated Locksmiths No. 1331 are unfair.



# Union of United Mine Workers of America

The spotlight of publicity is at present centered on the United Mine Workers of America and their leader, John L. Lewis, through the current dispute. Opinions are being formed pro and con of the dispute, generally based upon news dispatches in the daily press. We believe, to properly evaluate the United Mine Workers and their leader, that some background of the union is absolutely necessary before opinions can be properly formed. What is the union? How is it constituted? Is it democratic? Is it a one-man proposition? Those and many more are the questions asked. The following sketch will give answers to those questions and will give a concise view of an organization so much in the public eye:

The United Mine Workers of America is an *American institution*, an orthodox industrial trade union. The setup of the organization is fashioned in the same manner as the American Government.

1. Local unions having jurisdiction over a single mine operation.
2. District and sub-district organizations by States and within States.
3. An international union—the officials of which consist of a president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer and executive board member from each district—which has jurisdiction over the United States and Canada and is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

## Officers Elected by Secret Ballot

All officers, from local to international officials, are

elected by secret ballot, the votes for international and district officials being counted by tellers also elected by a referendum vote.

Semi-annual audits are made of international accounts by three auditors who are elected by a referendum vote. The same is true of district organizations. These audits cover everything from lead pencils to officers' salaries and travel expenses, all items being detailed. In fact, these audits of expenditures, which are published for the membership, are far more comprehensive than any corporate or political unit renders to its stockholders or constituents.

The UMWA's democratic setup and controls vested in the membership, its low initiation fees and dues, plus the pursuit of a policy directed to economic betterments and which excludes political affiliations, enable the elected officials to give full time, consideration and attention to improving the economic and social well-being of the membership.

To insure democratic control and enable all local unions to have a voice in the biennial conventions of the international organization, the international union pays the transportation costs of delegates to and from international conventions, thus guaranteeing delegate representation to the large and small local unions alike.

## Union Free of Racketeering

The UMWA is free from racketeering. The UMWA does not tolerate racial discrimination and has no racial

problems. Since the formation of the UMWA, the Negro has been accorded full membership privileges and the right to hold office, based upon the principle of economic equality.

Members are free to exercise their own political judgment and participate in political campaigns as they see fit. No fines can be levied against any member for failure to participate in political campaigns designed to promote the interests of any candidate or political party.

All of which is another way of saying that the UMWA is the mold and essence of the American way of life as conceived and dedicated to economic security, free enterprise, free collective bargaining and the pursuit of happiness, in fact as well as theory.

## Un-American Groups Barred

The UMWA excludes from membership the Industrial Workers of the World, the Working Class Union, the One Big Union, the Ku Klux Klan, as well as members of the Fascist, Nazi, Bund and Communist organizations. The UMWA has consistently opposed Communism because Communism is the very antithesis of democracy. Being an *American institution*, conceived and dedicated to the American way of life, the UMWA believes that it is performing its duty to its own membership and to the American people as a whole when it excludes from membership those who preach the doctrines of *isms embracing revolutionary practices designed to destroy the American way of life*.

## Prime Minister Bevin Guest of AFL Leaders

NEW YORK CITY (AFLN)—Six leaders of the American Federation of Labor played hosts here recently to British Foreign Minister Ernest Bevin, one of Britain's foremost trade union leaders, at a luncheon in the Hotel Commodore.

The meeting was described later by one of those in attendance as "a friendly get-together," although it was admitted that the participants discussed "some American and some British problems" of mutual interest.

The hosts at the luncheon were AFL President William Green, AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany, AFL Vice-President Matthew Woll; Robert J. Watt, AFL international representative; Felix H. Knight, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, and David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers.

## Chemical Plants Strike Bound

HOUSTON, Tex. (ILNS)—The big plants of the Dow Chemical Co. at Freeport were closed when picket lines of the International Union of Operating Engineers were set up. The plants employ nearly 6,000 workers. Eight hundred engineers closed the units in orderly fashion, a union spokesman said. Other employees of the plants and construction men working on additions respected the picket lines. Officials of the union in Houston said they understood the main stumbling-block had been the question of a union shop. They said bargaining representatives of the union and company had been "very close" on wage adjustments.

## Settlement Ends Lehigh Dispute

NEW YORK CITY (AFLN)—Amicable settlement of a dispute involving wages and transfer of employees, reached between the Lehigh Valley Railroad and the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks (AFL), averted an impending stoppage of operations on the Lehigh line. Terms of the agreement were not disclosed. An officer of the railroad said, however, that while the brotherhood demands included a wage increase, one of the main issues in the dispute was the removal of the Philadelphia accounting office to Bethlehem, Pa., and the transfer of some employees to New York.

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## NLRB Reports Activity In Labor Organization

WASHINGTON (ILNS)—Extraordinary union organizing activity, with great interest shown among workers in getting into unions, was indicated by an unprecedented number of representation elections conducted by the National Labor Relations Board in September.

Eight of 10 workers favored representation by a union in 687 elections—a new monthly record, with total ballots cast representing 89 per cent of eligible workers, "far greater than in political elections," the board reported. It said that 85,180 workers of 105,975 voted favored some Labor organization.

Campaign to organize employees in the smaller plants was indicated by the fact that 82 per cent of the elections did not involve more than one union. The average number of eligible workers per election was 175.

The board received 1,399 new causes in September, of which 72 per cent were petitions for elections. The others involved allegations of unfair Labor practices by employers.

Affiliates of the AFL filed 678 cases, of which 537 were petitions for elections and 141 were charges of unfair Labor practices. CIO groups filed 608 cases, of which 406 were petitions for elections, and 202 alleged unfair Labor practices. Unaffiliated unions submitted 67 cases, of which 53 were petitions for elections and 14 were charges of unfair Labor practices. Employers put in 13 petitions for elections, and individuals gave notice of unfair Labor practice charges in 20 cases.

NEW YORK CITY (ILNS)—A Twentieth Century Fund survey shows that compulsory medical insurance in the United States dates back to 1798 when, by Congressional act, provision was made for furnishing medical care to merchant seamen.

## Phone Workers Approve Formation of New Union

DENVER (ILNS)—Launching of a new union of telephone workers was announced here by 350 delegates attending the 13th national assembly of the National Federation of Telephone Workers, independent.

The delegates approved a new constitution which provides for a tightly knit Labor union instead of the federated structure of the NFW which a spokesman said represented about 200,000 workers in the communications industry.

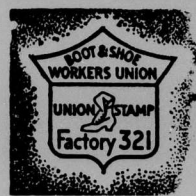
The new constitution will be submitted to a membership referendum, and the new union will go into operation as soon as the referendum period is ended, but no later than June 10, 1947. A spokesman said the new union will not be affiliated with either the CIO or AFL.

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